SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Sir, the magnitude of the problem can be gauged by the mere fact that 30,000 children get blind only on account of the non-availability of essential drugs. What about the substantive diseases? What is the number of casualties with respect to substantive diseases like cataract and others? Sir, I feel that this problem can be tackled only on a national level if only this thing is brought to the district level. Will the Minister consider a suggestion from me that he shall right from now on even in cities other than Delhi—of course the hospitals have a section where eye-treatment is done—but will the hon. Minister consider that in view of the magnitude of the problem that he will evolve a scheme that in every district of the country an eye hospital will be established and 50 per cent of the expenditure will be borne by the Centre so that the State Governments set up these as seeparate hospitals to cater to the needs of the people in the district?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, the answer clearly says that under the national programme for control of blindness eye care service centres are being provided in States at Primary, i.e., the primary health centre, at Secondary, i.e., the district, and also at the Tertiary level. Tertiary level naturally means the medical colleges and bigger hospitals. So, at all the three levels it is being simultaneously provided. Now, the provision as it is being made now and the coverage as it is being achieved now is not adequate and what needs to be done is more coverage, more money, more funds and not going really anywhere down below that primary health centre. It is well known that we are actually having this programme at all the three levels.

Immunisation scheme for triabals in Bihar

*431. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that population of tribals in Santhal Paragana and Chhotta Nagpur in Bihar is decreasing day by day with increase in death rate, if so the reasons thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to start any mass immunisation programme in these two places of Bihar;

(c) if so, what are the details of the programme and by when it will be started; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) be in nagative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) According to the last three Census, there is no decline in the total population of scheduled tribes in the areas of Chhotta Nagpur and Santhal Paragana.

(b) and (c) The Expanded Programme of Immunization was started in 1978 with the objective of providing immunization against major vaccine preventable diseases among pregnant women and infants. From 1985-86, the Universal Immunization Programme has been started to provide a total coverage for pregnant women and infants by 1990. Chhotta Nagpur and Santhal Paragana are having Expanded Programme of Immunization and other health related activities. Universal Immunization Programme will be extended to Dhanbad and Singhbhum Districts in Chhotta Nagpur in 1987.

(d) Does not arise.

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदया ने सेंसस का हवाला देते हुए कहा है कि मृत्यु की संख्या में कमी नहीं हो रही है। क्या मंत्री महोदया यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगी कि पिछले तीन सेंससों में डेथ रेट और बर्थ रेट क्या क्या रहे हैं ?

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव : श्रीमन्, जब यह कहा जाता है कि उनकी आबादी कम हो रही है उसी के जवाब में हमने कहा कि उनकी जो कुल आबादी है वह कम नहीं हो रही है लेकिन उनका प्रतिशत घट सकता है। यह इसलिए कि जब नान-ट्राइबल लोग वहां किसी भी कारण

से आ जाते हैं, ज्यादा संख्या में आ कर लोग बस जाते हैं तो इनका परसेंटेज घट सकता है। जहां तक हमारी जानकारी है इसमें कोई सत्य नहीं है कि उनकी आबादी घट रही है। यह आबादी के बारे में कहा गया है इसलिए आबादी के बारे में हमने जवाब दिया है। अब डेथ रेट के बारे में वे जानना चाहते हैं मैं समझता हूं कि for that I would seem to require a separate notice. I do no have that information with me.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Why sparate notice?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Because I do not have that information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, what is your second supplementary?

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : ये तो बचने वाली बातें हैं।

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव : इसमें बचने की क्या बात है जब बिल्कुल वरीफाइड फैक्ट्स मेरे पास नहीं हैं... (**व्यवधान**)

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : सभापति महोदय, यह जो रोग प्रतिरक्षीकरण प्रदान किया जा रहा है इसके बारे में मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि गर्भवती महिलाओं और छोटे बच्चों को जो इम्युनाइजेशन और दूसरे टीके दिये जा रहे हैं इनके देने के बावजूद डेथ रेट गर्भवती महिलाओं और बच्चों का क्या है यह बताने का कष्ट करें?

श्री पी०वी० नरसिंह राव : मैं यही कह रहा हूं कि ये आंकड़े इस वक्त मेरे पास नहीं हैं। इस में कोई छिपाने की बात नहीं है। मैं कह रहा हूं कि मेरे पास नहीं हैं, मैं आपको दे सकता हूं।

श्री कैलाशपति मिश्र : श्रीमन्, संथाल परगना के एक हिस्से में पहाड़िया नाम की एक आदिवासी जाति रहती है वैसे तो कई जातियां, मुंडा, उड़ाव, हो, आदि हैं लेकिन मैं विशेषकर संथाल परगने की पहाड़िया आदिवासी जाति के बारे में पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार के पास रिपोर्ट है कि प्रति वर्ष वह रेस ही समाप्त हो रही है, उनकी आबादी घटती चली जा रही है और अगर रिपोर्ट नहीं है तो क्या सरकार पहाड़ियों की बरबादी, उनकी समाप्ति की कोई जांच कराने के लिए तैयार है, संथाल परगने के लिए?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: This is a question concerning tribal population as such, including all tribes. Now, the hon. Member has raised a question in regard to a particular tribe. It does not become a Health question; it becomes anthropological question. In spite of that, I could get the information and give it to him.

श्री शरद यादव : मान्यवर, जो ट्राइबल आबादी है वह सबसे ज्यादा बिहार और मध्य प्रदेश में बसी हुई है। माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत ठीक बात मंत्री जी से पूछने का काम किया कि पिछले 10 सालों में जो दूसरी आबादियों की आबादी बढ़ी है या जो नान ट्राइबल्स लोग हैं उनकी आबादी जिस रेशियो में बढ़ी है क्या उतने ही रेशियों से आदिवासियों की आबादी बढ़ी है नं० 1 और नं० 2 क्या आप कोई जांच कमीशन या कोई जांच कमेटी बैठा करके इस बात की खोज करेंगे? मैं आपको पक्का बताता हूं कि कई ट्राइबल लोगों की जातियां समाप्त हो रही हैं, इसलिए हो रही हैं कि इंडस्ट्रियलाइजेशन उन इलाकों में बड़े पैमाने पर हो रहा है और जो इन्वायर्मेंट हैं जिसके आदिवासी आदी हैं वह सब का सब समाप्त हो रहा है तो क्या आप कोई जांच कमेटी या जांच कमीशन बनाकर जो आबादी घट रही है ट्राइबल की उसको रोकने का काम करेंगे और यह जानकारी आप हमको देंगे कि पिछले 10 साल में आदिवासियों की आबादी कितनी बढ़ी है और कितनी नहीं?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I would take his suggestion as Minister for

Human Resource Development. Anthropology, to some extent, comes under me. I would certainly look into that. If any tribe has become extinct, as it is being alleged, it is a matter of concern and I shall look into it.

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: This is a phenomenon everywhere. Unless the tribal population is properly taken care of, their numbers dwindle. This is a phenomenon everywhere and under the circumstances, may I ask the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that the welfare measures are not reaching them properly, and especially nutrition is not reaching them, and what steps is the Government of India taking to save the tribe? I would like the Minister to throw some light on this aspect.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: There are many reasons why some tribes are becoming extinct. We have examples in the Andamans and Nicobar. I think it is not the question of nutrition; it is not the question of anything being given to them from outside. There is something happening genetically. Also in other respects, this has to be gone into in greater detail. I have said already that I would look into it in regard to Bihar and Madhya Pradesh to find out about each of these tribes and see what could be done to arrest decline in their population if it is happening.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Vacancy of domestic science teachers in Delhi schools

*432. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:† SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that professional and vocational education has acquired added emphasis under the new education policy;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of posts of domestic science teachers are vacant in the Delhi Administration Schools;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in a large number of schools domestic science is not being taught even to girl students; and

(d) if so, what is the percentage of such schools where domestic science is not being taught to girls in the schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) According to the information furnished by Delhi Administration in all girls' schools and co-educational schools, run either by Government or by an aided private agency, the subject of Home Science is available at +2 stage, Domestic Science is taught as a subject at the middle level if a minimum of 15 students offer it, and at the secondary level domestic Science related crafts are available as a part of the subject Socially Useful Productive Work.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Sir, as has been admitted in the answer, a number of vacancies of domestic science teachers in the Delhi Administration schools are there. Even girl students offering the subject of domestic science are dissuaded from and discouraged to offer this subject because no teacher is available. If it is so, what action Government propose to take? Will they advise the Delhi Administration to fill up these vacancies?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I discussed this matter with the Delhi Administration representatives yesterday. I find that the vacancies at the moment are a bit heavy. But they are taking early

*The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Mahendra Prasad.